

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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SUBJECT 1. The Military Academy in Hranice
2. Infantry Weapons
3. Activity of the 5336 Military Formation in Znojmo

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1. The Military Academy in Hranice consists of the following units:

a. Artillery: 2 batteries - 1st year
2 batteries - 2nd year

b. Infantry: 2 companies - 1st year
2 companies - 2nd year

c. RTZ company (Company of technical weapons - Rota technickych zbrani):

1 platoon of tank troops - 1st year
1 platoon of engineers - 1st year
1 platoon of signal corps - 1st year

d. Detachments of the Military Academy:

2nd year DPL (Delostrelactvo proti letadlum - Anti-aircraft)
2nd year engineers in Litomerice in Prague
2nd year signal corps in Nove Mesto nad Vahom
2nd year administration in Rokytnice
2nd year tank troops in Vyskov, formerly in Milovice
2nd year technical armorers in Plzen

2. From 1946 to 1948 there was a Russian military mission at the Military Academy consisting of nine members, among whom were a Major Sadrin (fmu) and a Captain Golub (fmu). The final maneuvers in Libava during May and June 1948 were attended by a Russian mission and the maneuvers were carried out according to Soviet rules.

3. The DBZ commander at the Military Academy was Staff Captain Mahrla (fmu), who, during the war was employed in the District Office in Zlin. Before February 1948, the ratio of non-Communists to Communists at the Academy was 38 : 2. At that time, however, the Communists would meet and cooperate with the Soviet Military Mission. After the February coup, lists of unreliable students were sent to the Ministry of National Defense which thereafter excluded about one

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hundred students from the Academy. The activity of the Communist students then increased and one was put in charge of each company. The following were leading Communist students at the Academy:

- a. Lt. Seda, who changed his name from Schneider. Upon graduation, he was given a position at the HSVO in Prague.
- b. Lieutenants Ivo Charvat, Vojtek, Krejci, Pufer-Sladek, Nemecek, Rubas.
4. The class of 1926 which was called up in 1948 is being controlled by confidants (Desitkovi Duvernici or Desitkari) who are each in charge of ten men.
5. The shoulder insignia of the Academy students has been changed from two gold stripes to stripes in the shape of a V which is broken in the middle.
6. The following weapons have been in use in the Czech army:
 - a. Rifles: German Mauser 94, Czech rifles model 24, the Russian "Vintovka", German and Russian sniper rifles, German sub-machine guns MP 41 and 43, the Russian Dektarev, British sten-guns, and German sturmgewehr. The Russian anti-tank rifles Vektarev and Simonov were discarded.
 - b. Light machine guns: Czech model 26 and the Russian Dektarev.
 - c. Heavy machine guns: Maxim, Czech model 37, Schwarzlose, German MG 43 and 34, Russian VKPL (Velky kulomet protiletadlový - anti-aircraft), KPUV (Kanon proti utočne vozbe - anti-tank gun) 45 mm and 76 mm.
 - d. Tanks: Cromwell, Stalin, T-34, Czech model 37, British patrol cars and half tracks.
7. Workers and soldiers attached to the Military Formation 5336 in Znojmo worked on the frontier fortifications, consisting of pillboxes, in the region of Mikulov and Znojmo as well as along the Austrian border as far as Breclav. The guns have been removed from the pillboxes but these are ready for immediate use. Equipment for the men is inadequate and consists mainly of German material. There is not enough equipment available for the latest classes of recruits.

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